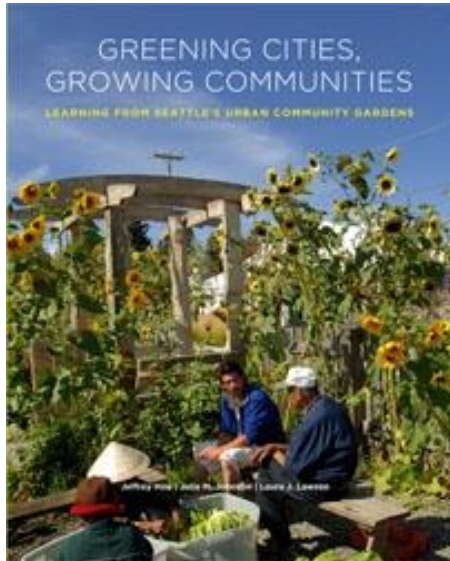


Year of Urban Agriculture Brown Bag Session: *Greening Cities, Growing Communities*

Friday, May 21 ❖ 12 noon to 1 p.m. ❖ SMT #4080



The Mayor and Seattle City Council have announced 2010 as the *Year of Urban Agriculture*. Local and national media have been talking about the “urban ag” movement. In fact, KUOW recently devoted an hour-long *Weekday* segment on the topic. So, what is “urban agriculture”? And how does the City support it?

Urban community gardens are generally acknowledged as one resource to expand urban agriculture. Although thousands of community gardens exist across North America, only a few cities, such as San Francisco and Seattle, include community gardens as open space in their city planning process. In recent years, interest has dramatically increased in the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods’ P-Patch Community Gardening program. The interest in urban agriculture has led to the creation of other community-managed gardens, including those built in the *Spring Into Bed* campaign.

Jeff Hou and **Julie Johnson**, associate professors at University of Washington, will present findings from their recent co-authored book **Greening Cities, Growing Communities: Learning from Seattle’s Urban Community Gardens**, written with Laura Lawson. They will address the multiple facets of urban community gardens and discuss their critical role in progressive city planning and in the contemporary urban landscape.

The presentation will cover the following:

- Planning and design strategies that support the development of urban community gardens as sustainable places for education and recreation
- Approaches to design process, construction, and stewardship that use volunteer and community participation and create a sense of community
- Programs that enable gardens to serve as a resource for social justice for low-income and minority communities, immigrants, and seniors
- Opportunities to develop active-living frameworks through the location of community gardens and linkages with other forms of recreation and open space as part of pedestrian-accessible networks

Please come join Jeff Hou and Julie Johnson on Friday, May 21 as they discuss greening Seattle. The presentation will be followed by a Q & A session.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RSVP:

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